

**PSPI Follow-Up Brainstorming Session:  
FY2005 Work Planning Preparation**

Final Report

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Authors' Names:	Greta Boye, Andrew Kaiser, Hatem Tieby, Brad Fusco, Geoff Wright, Amal Habis, Walter Hekala, Jamal Olaimat and Lina Arafat
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Name of Component:	Private Sector Policy Initiative
Authors:	Greta Boye, Andrew Kaiser, Hatem Tieby, Brad Fusco, Geoff Wright, Amal Habis, Walter Hekala, Jamal Olaimat and Lina Arafat
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## ABSTRACT

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The objective of this report is to summarize and document the outcome of a PSPI work planning team event that was a follow-on to the first brainstorming session. It represents the second of four team events that will eventually lead to the preparation of the FY2005 PSPI work plan. The team worked together to devise questions to pose to the AMIR Program Director and managers of USAID's Office of Economic Opportunities.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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This report presents a summary of the outcome of a PSPI work planning team event that was a follow-on to the first brainstorming session. The event took place at Dar Alanda Gallery on June 8, 2004. It represents the second of four team events that will eventually lead to the preparation of the FY2005 PSPI work plan. Like the first event, this one was intended to prepare the groundwork for a follow-on team event, in which the team would have question and answer sessions with the AMIR Program Director and managers of USAID's Office of Economic Opportunities (OEO).

The objective of this second brainstorming event was specific in nature: to arrive at a focused list of questions to pose to the AMIR Program Director and managers of USAID's OEO. The team followed an agenda that broke them into two groups to arrive at questions by consensus. The team then grouped the questions according to category and finalized lists presented in this report.

PSPI Brainstorming Session  
 Tuesday, June 8, 2:30-4:30pm  
 Dar Alanda Art Gallery

Time	Participants	TASK	Activities
2:30-2:40 (10')	General Session	1	Why? Purposes of this Meeting GB proposal Individual additions 1-3 half sheets per person (white) Greta will transcribe and send to Rami
2:40-3:00 (20')	Teams	2	Questions to ask Steve: Blue Team Red Team 5-10 questions on half sheets per person 10' to write, 20' to share and review One transcriber for Blue Team, one for Red Team, text to Rami
3:00-3:30 (30')	Group session	3	Reports, discussion and additions (on team color paper) Objective: 8-10 questions for Steve Additions noted by team transcriber, text to Rami
3:30-3:50 (20')	Teams	4	Questions to ask USAID: Yellow Team Green Team 5-10 recommendations on half sheets per person 10' to write, 20' to share and review One transcriber for Yellow Team, one for Green Team, text to Rami
3:50-4:10 (20')	General Session	5	Reports, discussion and additions (on team color paper) Objective: 8-10 questions for USAID Additions noted by team transcriber, text to Rami
4:10-4:30 (20')	General Session	6	Lessons Learned 1-2 half sheets each Share at least one with PSPI Team Closing remarks: GB One transcriber sends text to Rami

## **Q&A WITH STEVE<sup>1</sup>**

### **Budget and Planning**

1. What is the time between budgeted and actual expenditure – how will this affect the end of the project in mid 2005?
2. Can we expect budget stability for the next year?
3. How can we include USAID further in our idea generation and planning phase?

### **Projects and Goals**

1. From Chemonics' perspective, how important are each of the following issues:
  - (1) The AMIR Proposal
  - (2) Current USAID Strategy
  - (3) Keeping USAID/Counterparts satisfied
2. How do you prioritize the goals and results stated in the contract versus the work plan?
3. How flexible is the Chemonics contract with USAID, given the changes in the country since it was signed, and the new USAID strategy?

### **PSPI Performance**

1. How can PSPI improve? Name three strengths and weakness.
2. What is your vision for PSPI and its subcomponents in the next phase?

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<sup>1</sup> Steve Wade, AMIR Program Director.



## **Project Completion**

1. When can we expect to know if the extension year is approved?
2. How can we plan for FY 2005 most effectively in light of extension year uncertainly?
3. What is the best way to manage counterparts' expectation regarding the completion of AMIR II?
4. What is AMIR's exit strategy?
5. What kind of legacy or impact would you like PSPI to leave behind?
6. With or without an extension year, how would you like PSPI to conclude its engagement with its counterparts, and otherwise close out its activities?
7. What are the prospects for AMIR III, or your guess for discrete EO projects?

## **Q&A WITH USAID<sup>2</sup>**

### **The Future**

1. What is USAID's vision for a successful AMIR exit? How do you recommend we plan for the two contingencies? (extension or no extension)
2. Rank the current possibility of (final year) extension. What is the timeline for decision making on this?
3. How can we help to strengthen Jordan's enforcement of commercial regulations?
4. What is the future of the USAID /Jordan Economic Opportunities strategic objective? Is AMIR 3 in the cards?
5. What would you like to look back on and say USAID accomplished through the AMIR Program?

### **Reporting**

1. How adequate and useful are PSPI reports? Who do you send them to?
2. Is there anything in the reports that is not useful; that we could eliminate to reduce reporting requirements?
3. In general, how are we doing on the update meetings? More? Less? Just right?
4. What mechanisms could we use to solicit ongoing feedback on the reports of consultants?

### **USAID Priorities**

1. What are USAID's reporting requirements on AMIR?
2. What is more important to you--maintaining harmonious relationships with clients or advocating best-practices?
3. What is more important to you--achieving short term results or building institutions for medium to long-term results?

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<sup>2</sup> Jim Barnhart, Director, OEO; Sean Jones, Deputy Director, OEO; Jamal Al Jabiri, Cognizant Technical Officer, OEO.

4. Is there any shift in USAID focus as a result of Jim's recent trip? If so, how can AMIR accomodate?
5. Prioritize from 1-5: Implementation partner desires; AMIR work-plan targets; USAID E.O SO; State Department concerns; MOP issues

### **External Partners**

1. Can you fill us in on the State Department's primary concerns? MOP's primary concerns?
2. How do MEPI/Millennium Challenge and USAID complement each other?
3. How aware are you of other USAID and other donor projects that relate to USAID's ongoing activities? How can we best communicate and coordinate?
4. What could/should the Jordanian government do better to achieve its economic objectives? The Jordanian private sector?

### **Past Performance**

1. What have been PSPI's greatest successes and failures?
2. What do you consider to be PSPI's strengths and weaknesses?